REMARKS

This application was originally filed on 21 December 2001 with nineteen claims, two of which were written in independent form. Claims 10-19 have been canceled without prejudice. No claims have been allowed.

Claim 1 has been amended to state that the lower portion and intermediate metalization portion extend beyond the top portion and to distinguish Claim 1 over Guzuk.

Claims 2-9 should be deemed allowable for depending from an allowable base claim and on their own merits.

In view of the amendments and the remarks presented herewith, it is believed that the claims currently in the application accord with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are allowable over the prior art of record. Therefore, it is urged that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Chiles Sil

Charles A. Brill

Reg. No. 37,786

Texas Instruments Incorporated PO Box 655474 M/S 3999 Dallas, TX 75265 (972) 917-4379 FAX: (972) 917-4418